



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Peterborough Historical
Society**

Monthly Meeting

Barry MacDougall
"Adjudicating First Nations'
Damage Claims by the Specific
Claims Tribunal"
Tuesday, 21 January
7:30 p.m.
Lion's Community Centre

Eric Conroy
"The Story of the
S.S. Keewatin:
112 Years of Steamboat
History and the Rescue of this
Maritime Treasure"
Tuesday, 18 February
7:30 p.m.
Lion's Community Centre

Sylvia Sutherland
"Reflections on a
Career in Journalism
and Municipal Politics"
Tuesday, 17 March
7:30 p.m.
Lion's Community Centre

Hutchison House Events

Heritage Luncheons
first Wednesday of the month
February to June
Advance tickets
sitting times at 12:00 noon
& 1:30 p.m.

Call Hutchison House
for details

PETERBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETINGS.

The monthly meetings and lectures are on the **third Tuesday of the Month: January, February, March and May at 7:30 p.m. Lion's Community Centre, 347 Burnham Street.**

**"ADJUDICATING FIRST NATIONS' DAMAGE CLAIMS
BY THE SPECIFIC CLAIMS TRIBUNAL"**

The Honorable Barry MacDougall

Tuesday, 21 January 2020

Lion's Community Centre, 347 Burnham Street, 7:30 p.m.

The Specific Claims Tribunal was established in October, 2008. "The term "specific claims" generally refers to monetary damage claims made by a First Nation against the Crown regarding the administration of land and other First Nation assets and to the fulfillment of Indian treaties that have not been accepted for negotiation or that have not been resolved through a negotiated settlement within a specified time frame." **Barry MacDougall** is a retired Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and of the Specific Claims Tribunal.

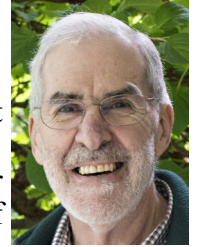


Barry MacDougall

The Peterborough Historical Society acknowledges with thanks the support of the City of Peterborough and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport of Ontario.

From the President ...

Dale Standen



When this *Bulletin* reaches our members, 2019 will be behind us, as will Hogmanay at Hutchison House, having brought in the new year in traditional Scottish fashion.

In 2020, we have another eventful year to look forward to. The winter and spring speaker series, published in the December *Bulletin* and on the PHS website, offers a diverse selection of topics and perspectives. In addition to its regular meetings, the Society will be engaging in outreach events with various community groups. With Heritage Awards and High School History Prizes, it will recognize outstanding contributions toward the preservation of the community's heritage and encourage students to pursue their interest in history. This year's occasional paper, scheduled to appear in the first quarter, will be the proceedings of the "Back to the Future" conference held last February to celebrate the history, accomplishments and challenges of Peterborough's Board of Health over the past 130 years. The conference was organized jointly by the PHS and by Peterborough Public Health. And Hutchison House has planned another year of rich public programs for adults and children, and educational programs linked to school curriculum.

A major preoccupation of the Board of Directors in the coming year will be the implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2020-2024, approved at the December Board meeting after many months of research and consultations. Community heritage organizations, especially those that operate museums, face common, ongoing challenges that demand regular reviews of goals and operations. Circumstances constantly change and strategic planning is critical in the essential process of review and adaptation. The Strategic Plan having identified the direction to follow and the goals to achieve in the next five years, the next step is to determine how to get there and to implement the measures decided on. The Board is excited to work with staff, volunteers and members to get on with the task. The Strategic Plan will soon be posted on the PHS website and we welcome any comments and suggestions.

One essential step in the communication plan is to develop a new website. The current website platform for PHS and Hutchison House is now obsolete and will not be supported after a few more months. The Board has just signed a contract for the development of a new, interactive website that should be launched by March, 2020. We are very excited about the increased capability that the new website will provide and look forward to greater convenience and more effective communication with members and the wider public.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I extend to members and other readers best wishes in the year ahead.

Victorian Christmas for kids—Juli Hiller reading to children, dad helping his daughters grind spices for gingerbread cookies



Hutchison House Report

Gale Fewings



Many times over the years I've included snippets from the past to highlight what is going on in the present. With New Year's Eve so recently behind us, I thought people might enjoy reading the following excerpts from Sandford Fleming's 1855 diary.

Jan 1 At Cobourg, Canada, on the way to Peterboro to marry Jeannie Hall - woke up at Globe Hotel a great big Canadianized Scotchman, with rather an ungainly figure, large head, red or sandy coloured beard & moustache - such is my house of clay! At 10 o'clock started by railway for Peterboro arrived about noon. Met Mr Hall, walked home, his family well, after some delay Jennie showed up. Amused myself with the children and went to bed.

Jan 2 Up to late breakfast, smoked, snuffed and wrote Frank Albro - Lillies [Hall] birthday, little gift - wrote ... William Hutchison - At house all day with the children, Jeannie very busy preparing - ordered carriage to go to Lindsay & to Dr Kellogg's - bed about 12.

Jan 3 Preparing for our wedding - very beautiful morning - walked to town to get licence 1.10.0. Rev Mr Rogers expected in two or three minutes - it is now 11 o'clock. All ready to start off in an hour. Ceremony to take place at once - 12 o'clock - now married, to Jeannie Hall - after breakfast started off in spring waggon by back way to Toronto - clear sun-shine. Stopped at Hotel at Lindsay all night - spent the evening in the same room that we did nearly 12 months ago under different circumstances.

Congratulations to the Hutchison House volunteers. The annual Christmas Market at the end of November was another great success. This year the volunteers raised \$3,000 for the museum through the sale. Well done! Thank you everyone who helped with the sale, donated to the cause, and/or came out to shop. It takes the whole team to make it happen and we have one of the best teams in town.

In celebration of the season, volunteers hosted two very lovely afternoon events featuring radio productions, luscious desserts, and the warmth of a hearth fire to our patrons. Everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the food and the experience.

The following weekend we offered families an opportunity to take part in our second annual Victorian Christmas for Kids with the help and support of many of our very dedicated volunteers.

Hogmanay on January 1st is one of our most popular events and is just around the corner as I write this report. Let's all make a new year's resolution to make 2020 an amazing year.

The ever-popular Heritage Luncheons are back for another year beginning Wednesday, February 5. Our seasonal menu promises to dispel your mid-winter blahs and post-Christmas humdrums. Luncheons will also be held on March 4, April 1, May 6 and June 3. For more information, please call the office at 705 743 9710 for details and to book tickets.

Erin and I wish everyone a very happy and healthy new year!

Dickens & Dessert with carolers Kathy, Peter and Linda



Voices from Peterborough's Past Winch House—Crescent Street

Many Peterborough historic buildings live on by being reconfigured and repurposed, sometimes multiple times, to meet the needs of a new day (perhaps school to factory to apartments: west ward school/Albion Knitting Factory/483 Park Street apartments, or, factory to school to apartments: Dominion Woollens at 526 McDonnell Street/Sir Sandford Fleming College/Peterborough Housing Corporation Apartments). There are many paths of rejuvenation.

The Winch building located on Crescent Street opposite Little Lake has always been some version of residential. For many years, the building was described as butcher Harry Winch's "homestead," even though Harry never owned it. It is likely that the Ware family built the home in the 1840s; they sold it in 1876 to Winch's wealthy father-in-law, Edmond Chamberlain, for \$1250. The home remained in the substantial Chamberlain estate property portfolio until transferred to Elizabeth Winch, Harry Winch's widow, in 1925. After Elizabeth's death, the house sold in 1937 for \$1500 for the purpose of redevelopment.

Located at the south of Peterborough's French enclave, the Winch building, with its century-old stylings, was transformed in 1939 by owner-builder Aleric Letellier into a southern colonial style apartment building, with siding newly designed and manufactured by the Peterborough Lumber Company factory on Monaghan Road. The six-room apartments had "the newest style in baths, with needle-point showers, probably the first of the kind in Peterborough," and "cupboards galore, which will gladden the heart of any woman." The testimonial newspaper page for this project acknowledges participating local trades of eighty years ago; these trades were ancestors of some of today's leading Peterborough development businesses: W.R. Turner of today's Triple T condominium builders, and Smith Brothers Painters and Decorators of today's AON Inc. retirement home operators.

There has been a 21st century renovation by the Waddell family, which has transformed the building again to become the gracious single-family home seen here in 2019.

Ken Brown



The 'Winch house' in 2019
(photographer Ken Brown)

THE NEW ULTRA-MODERN LETELLIER-CRESCENT APARTMENTS

THE OLD "HARRY WINCH HOMESTEAD"



TRANSFORMED INTO THIS DREAM APARTMENT HOUSE



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SMITH BROS.

(John Sr., Jack W. Jr., Arthur J.)

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PHONES 3276 and 3718

Recent contracts include the painting of the inside of Kresge's Store, the interior of King George School, the interior and exterior of Central School, inside of old and new part of the Hotel Champlain, the interior of the Salvation Army Temple, etc.

Your inquiries will be appreciated

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Plumbing — Heating
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Phone 4971

Newspaper images: *Peterborough Weekly Review*,
14 December 1939



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The Bulletin
Editor: **Jodi Aoki**
Publisher: **Marilyn
MacNaughton**

Bulletin (ISSN 1484-5983)

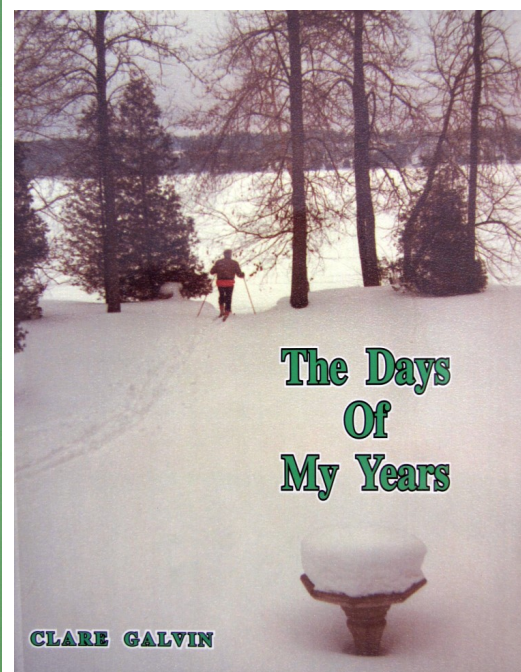
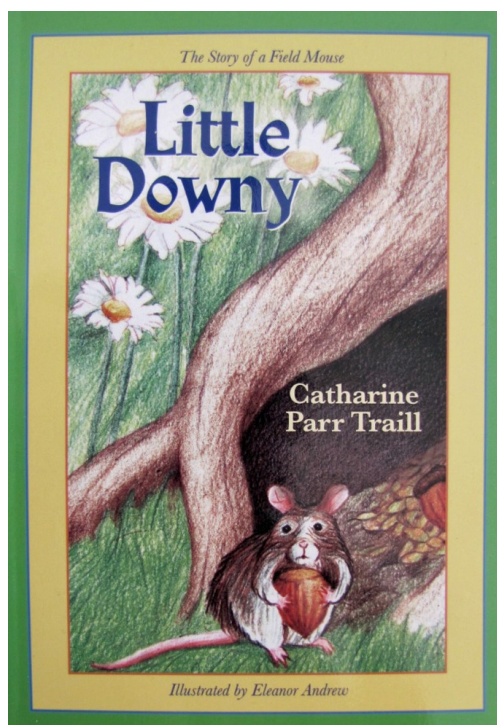
The Hutchison House Book-Nook

Tucked between the Keeping Room and the Harvey-Connell Room is Hutchison House's own book-nook. It is the best store in town for local books and one well worth some browsing time when next you visit the House. With the holidays upon us, let me suggest two books you might find interesting.

The first is Clare Galvin's *The Days of My Years* (1997). It is a gathering of columns he wrote for the *Peterborough Examiner* under the title 'Clare Remembers.' There is much here for the reader to recall or savour, abetted by excellent photographs. I found myself drawn to many of the charming essays with titles like "Christmas in the Thirties," "The Last Outhouse in Our Town," and "Movies--Then and Now." Clare knew well how to make a memory endure.

The second is a short children's story by Catharine Parr Traill. It's called *Little Downy, The Story of a Field Mouse* (2005) and was written originally in 1822 when Catharine was twenty years old and still living at Reydon Hall in Suffolk, England. The editor, Ruth Bradley-St-Cyr, has shortened some sentences and made the little story more readily readable for children today. But Traill's kindly vision of nature stands out in this friendly edition.

Michael Peterman



In Memoriam

In December, the Society lost two longstanding members and loyal supporters.

Dr. Art Turner, a participant and supporter of the local arts community, for many years, including 2019, served on the panel to judge nominations for the several Heritage Awards that the Society presents annually.

Dr. Garry Humphreys, former Medical Officer of Health, made a presentation last February to the conference on public health jointly sponsored by the PHS and Peterborough Public Health.

Art and Garry were dedicated Rotarians with a strong commitment to the community and an understanding of the importance of its history. Although they will be greatly missed, they have left a memorable legacy.